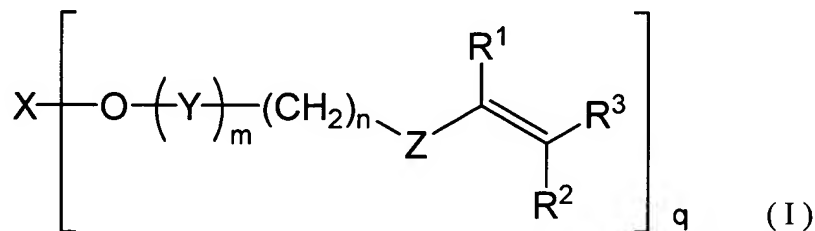


## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A poly(phenylene ether) resin composition comprising a poly(phenylene ether) and a crosslinking curing agent, wherein said polyphenylene ether is represented by the following formula (I), and the number averaged molecular weight thereof is in a range of 1,000 to 7,000.

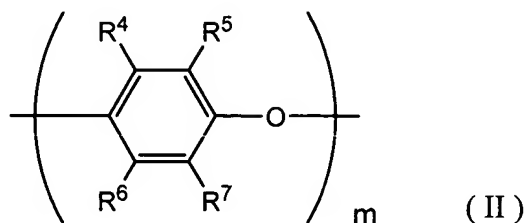


[wherein, X is an aryl group; (Y)<sub>m</sub> is a polyphenylene ether moiety; Z is a phenylene group, an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom; R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>3</sup> each independently is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group or alkynyl group; n is an integer of 1 to 6; and q is an integer of 1 to 4.]

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to claim [[1]] 21, wherein Z is a para or meta-phenylene group and n is 1.

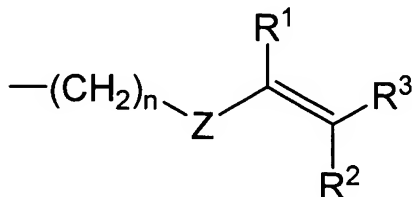
3. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to claim [[1]] 21, wherein Z is an oxygen atom and n is 2.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim [[1]] 21, wherein  $(Y)_m$  is represented by the following formula (II).



[wherein,  $R^4$  to  $R^7$  each independently is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group or an alkenyl carbonyl group; and  $m$  is an integer of 1 to 100.]

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim [[1]] 21, wherein the portion represented by the following formula is selected from ~~*p*-ethenylbenzyl~~ *p*-ethenylbenzyl and ~~*m*-ethenylbenzyl~~ *m*-ethenylbenzyl groups.



6. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim [[1]] 21, wherein the mass ratio represented by [the poly(phenylene ether)] / (the crosslinking curing agent) is 30/70 to 90/10.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim [[1]] 21, further comprising a poly(phenylene ether) having a number averaged molecular weight in a range of 9,000 to 18,000.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim 4, further comprising a poly(phenylene ether) having a number averaged molecular weight in a range of 9,000 to 18,000.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim 5, further comprising a poly(phenylene ether) having a number averaged molecular weight in a range of 9,000 to 18,000.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim ~~[[6]]~~ 21, further comprising a poly(phenylene ether) having a number averaged molecular weight in a range of 9,000 to 18,000 wherein both *p*-ethenylbenzyl and *m*-ethenylbenzyl groups are present.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 21, wherein said crosslinking curing agent is trialkenyl isocyanurate.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 21, wherein said crosslinking curing agent is a tri- to penta-functional (meth)acrylate compound.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 21, further comprising at least one kind of organic or inorganic filler.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim 13, wherein said filler has an average diameter of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim 13, wherein said filler is a hollow substance.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 13, wherein said filler is a substance prepared from a fluorine-containing compound.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 21, further comprising a flame retardant.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~poly(phenylene ether) resin composition~~ laminated sheet according to Claim 17, wherein said flame retardant is a bromine compound having a bromine content of 8 to 20 mass % with respect to the total amount of the composition.

19. (Original) A prepreg prepared by impregnating the poly(phenylene ether) resin composition according to Claim 1 into a substrate and semi-curing the resulting impregnated substrate.

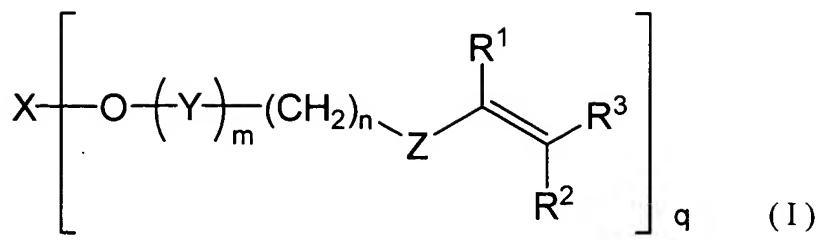
20. (Original) The prepreg according to Claim 19, wherein said substrate is an NE-type glass cloth.

21. (Currently Amended) A laminated sheet prepared by piling ~~the~~ a prepreg according to ~~claim 19~~ and copper foil(s) one over the other under heat-pressing,

wherein the prepreg is prepared by impregnating a poly(phenylene ether) resin composition into a substrate and semi-curing a resulting impregnated substrate,

wherein the poly(phenylene ether) resin composition comprises a poly(phenylene ether) and a crosslinking curing agent,

wherein the polyphenylene ether is represented by the following formula (I), and the number averaged molecular weight thereof is in a range of 1,000 to 7,000



wherein, X is an aryl group; (Y)<sub>m</sub> is a polyphenylene ether moiety; m is an integer of 1 to 100; Z is a para- or meta-phenylene group, an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom; and when Z is a oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, n is an integer of 1 to 6; when Z is a para- or meta-phenylene group, n is 1; R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>3</sup> each independently is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group or alkynyl group; and q is an integer of 1 to 4.

22. (Original) The laminated sheet according to Claim 21, wherein said copper foil has a surface roughness of 2 μm or less, and the surface thereof facing the prepreg is treated with zinc or a zinc alloy and at the same time coupled with a silane coupling agent having a vinyl group.